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## Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, July 10, 2008 – Emphasis Name Change: The Human Development Emphasis to Child Development

Utah State University

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## AGENDA

MEETING OF THE  
UTAH STATE BOARD OF REGENTS  
TO BE HELD AT  
SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY, CEDAR CITY, UTAH

JULY 10 – 11, 2008

Utah State Board of Regents  
Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education  
Board of Regents Building, The Gateway  
60 South 400 West  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1284

**Institutional Impact:** The proposed restructuring will not have a significant impact on enrollments in the four undergraduate majors or three minors. At the graduate level, the greater focus of the two new departments may have a small positive impact on enrollments. Administrative responsibility for the specific degree programs will be distributed in the following manner.

First, the new department in the College of Agriculture will be assigned administrative responsibility for the undergraduate majors in agribusiness (including both the business and the agricultural systems options), agricultural economics, and international agribusiness. The College of Agriculture will also be responsible for the minors in agribusiness management and agricultural economics. At the graduate level, the College of Agriculture will assume administrative responsibility for the doctorate in economics and the MS in applied economics (including the three specializations in agricultural economics, natural resource economics, and regional economic development).

Second, the new department in the Huntsman School of Business will have administrative responsibility for the undergraduate major in economics (including the emphasis areas of economic theory, managerial economics, and prelaw economics) and the economics minor. At the graduate level, this department will be responsible for the MS and MA in economics.

*Administrative Structure:* The proposed restructuring will result in two new departments – one located administratively in the College of Agriculture (the Department of Applied Economics) and another located administratively in the Huntsman School of Business (the Department of Economics and Finance).

*Facilities:* In the short term, no new physical facilities will be required. All of the faculty will remain in their current offices. In the long term (three to five years), the faculty and staff of the Department of Applied Economics will be relocated to the new Agricultural Sciences building on the University Quad.

*Faculty:* In the Fall of 2007, the executive vice president and provost met individually with each member of the existing Department of Economics. As part of these discussions, each faculty member was asked to designate their preferred departmental affiliation. All of the preferences of the existing faculty were accommodated. That is, each continuing faculty member was able to select with which of the two new departments they would be affiliated. By July 1, 2008, the staff will be similarly consulted and a disaggregation plan devised.

**Finances:** There will be some marginal additional costs associated with implementing this restructuring. For example, there is currently money in the budget for one department head. With the move to two departments, USU will identify the resources necessary to pay an administrative stipend to a second department head. Similarly, as the disaggregation is implemented fully and the two departments are physically separated, there may be a need for additional staff. Monies for these additional expenditures will come from internal college and university reallocations or the use of new discretionary monies.

iii. ***Emphasis Name Change: the Human Development Emphasis to Child Development***

**Request:** The Department of Family, Consumer, and Human Development in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services at Utah State University requests to change the name of the Human Development emphasis in the Family, Consumer, and Human Development major to Child

Development. This change will not affect any instructional activities. All course requirements for the emphasis will stay the same.

**Need:** This change is requested to more accurately reflect the content of the emphasis and reduce confusion that students have who want to study adulthood or adolescence. It is not a life-span human development emphasis. It is an emphasis in infancy and early childhood.

**Institutional Impact:** This proposed change will not affect enrollments in this emphasis, nor will it affect any affiliated departments or programs. It will have no effect on existing administrative structures or in existing faculty or staff. No new facilities or equipment will be required.

**Finances:** No new costs or savings are anticipated from this change.

iv. *Department Name Change: the Department of Instructional Technology to the Department of Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences*

**Request:** Utah State University requests approval to rename the Department of Instructional Technology to the Department of Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences. The new name would take effect 1 January 2009.

**Need:** The rationale for renaming the department includes the following:

- To reflect the current faculty's research focus and desires. Currently, many faculty members in the department engage in Learning Science research. At a vote at a faculty meeting in March, 2008, only one faculty member voted against the proposed name change.
- To stay current with national and international research and teaching trends. Many departments of Instructional and/or Educational Technology are renaming themselves to, or adding an emphasis in, Learning Sciences. Nationally, the American Education Research Association Conference has a Learning Sciences special interest group. Internationally, there is both *Journal of the Learning Sciences*, as well as a bi-annual Internal Conference of The Learning Sciences.
- To advance interdisciplinary external funding proposals and research. Many funding agencies and foundations (e.g., National Science Foundation, Hewlett Foundation) have funding programs that specifically name and target Learning Sciences research. Several faculty members pursue these awards and would thereby benefit from the requested name change.
- To enhance the recruitment of high quality faculty. Many new, quality PhDs have been prepared within programs that are either named or contain a substantial Learning Science component. The requested name change would help ensure USU is considered in the job search of these candidates.
- To enhance the recruitment of high quality students.

**Institutional Impact:** The proposed restructuring will not affect current enrollments in the department's program. As noted above, it is expected to increase the quantity of students applying. No new physical facilities or equipment will be required. The number of faculty and professional staff will not change.

**Finances:** No new costs or savings are anticipated from this change.